

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS


The Examiner's Action of September 6, 2005, has been received and reviewed by counsel for Assignee. In that Action all claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by *Atsuo et al.* By this response counsel has canceled all claims and placed them in more idiomatic English and in general compliance with U.S. requirements. Each of the independent claims has been clarified to distinguish the cited reference. In particular, Applicants' method now calls for a three-step process in which the semiconductor device is first sealed with resin and cured. Following the cure, the resin is baked at a temperature which is not higher than the cure temperature, and following that step, the resin is baked at a temperature which is higher than the cure temperature. In other words, a three-step process is performed at which an initial cure is carried out at a first temperature, a bake operation is carried out at a lower temperature than the first temperature, and then a further baking operation is carried at a temperature higher than the first temperature.

The cited reference does not teach this multi-step process. As noted by the Examiner in paragraph 1 on page 2 of the Action, the cited reference teaches baking at a temperature higher than the sealing temperature, not first baking at a temperature lower than the ceiling temperature.

Each of the independent claims 17, 24, 28 and 29 now includes these limitations. For that reason each of the independent claims is believed to patentably distinguish the cited reference. All of the other claims presented for examination are dependent upon these independent claims, and for at least that reason should also be allowable.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at 650-324-6303 (direct).

Respectfully submitted,



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